



MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

December 2020 – Because of the continuing pandemic, the regular monthly MNS meeting for December will NOT be held. We are, however, planning to hold a meeting January 21, beginning at 6 PM. Please see the president's message on page 2. We will continue to print and distribute the MNS newsletter.

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Secretary: James Kubley
Sgt. at Arms: Dave Herrewig
Trustee '17-'19: Dave Hunsicker
Librarian: Justin Perrault

Vice President: Jim Heinrich
Treasurer: Chris Kantak
Trustee '19-'21: Lee Hartz
Trustee '18-'20: Gary Bieringer
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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings in 2021 will be held at 6 PM in the Mayfair Mall community room on the third Thursday of each month.

December Coin of the Month: The headline and photograph should be self-explanatory. This is, in my opinion, one of the two most historical coins of the ancient world. It shows Brutus and the daggers used to assassinate Julius Caesar on the Ides of March, 44 BC. Only 3 gold and perhaps 100 silver examples are known. For more details, see p. 3.



This EID MAR Brutus aureus, NGC-graded MS*5/5-3/5, net around \$4.2 million at auction, including the Buyer's Premium.
(Images courtesy Numa Numismatics Ltd.)

**EID MAR Brutus Aureus
Sells for Nearly \$4.2 Million**

December 2020 MNS President's Message

At long last we have reached the final month of the most atypical year in modern memory and of our lifetimes. We should soon have an effective vaccine!! I think it is high time for MNS to get back on track and begin regular in-person meetings. Even if attendance is down and there is not a lot of critical business to discuss or events to plan it will give us the opportunity to get out of the house and share some in-person stories.

We will have a meeting on January 21. Please note the new meeting time: 6:00-8:00 PM, which is totally out of our control due to operational changes at the mall. Mayfair has continued to allow us to use the same meeting room and provided it to us at a substantially lower per-meeting cost. All things considered, for now Mayfair is our best option for the meeting location, until something more advantageous presents itself.

Not much to report on the upcoming year's calendar or coin show schedule. We will add things as the year progresses and hopefully there will be more shows to attend in the coming year. Just being able to hold in-person meetings, as simple and casual as they come, is the main goal. The Central States and the ANA World's Fair of Money are the two major shows still slated for next year outside of Chicago, so that gives us something excellent to look forward to if everything goes as planned.

It was promising to see that the ANA is moving forward to hold the Summer Seminar of 2021, in spite of the fact that the location will move from the Colorado College Campus to an alternate facility. For anyone looking to attend, the dates will be June 19-24 for the first session and June 26-July 1 for the second session.

Do not forget to mark your new calendars for the meeting in January, although you should receive another newsletter beforehand to remind you. Until then, I hope everyone has a great Christmas and New Year holiday.

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996



MN\$ 2021

Schedule

Monthly meetings for 2021 are ready to commence. Due to changes at Mayfair Mall, our meetings will run from 6:00-8:00 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 21:	General Business/Show & Tell
Feb 18:	Open
March 18:	Open
April 15:	Open
May 20:	Open
June 17:	Open
July 15:	Open
Aug 19:	Open/ANA Show Recap
Sept 16:	Open
Oct 21:	Open
Nov 18:	Open
Dec 16:	Christmas Party/Office Elections

Annual Dues

Dues for 2021 are \$10. Please pay Leon A. at the next meeting, or they can be mailed to MNS, PO Box 26886, Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0886. Thanks to those who have paid. Those who have not paid will be removed from the club's mailing list.

Random Information

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, and helpers to work at events. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make the club a success.

2021 Numismatic Events

April 16-17	South Shore Coin Club Show
April 17	MNS Scout Clinic at SSCC show
April 21-24	CSNS Convention Schaumburg, IL
Aug. 10-14	ANA World's Fair of Money Rosemont, IL
Oct. 3:	MNS Coin Show at Serb Hall 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave. (9-4 PM)

Refreshment Schedule

Refreshments are temporarily postponed until a future meeting date.

The EID MAR Aureus of Brutus

On the cover I have placed a photo of the third known EID MAR aureus of Brutus (19 mm, 8.06 g), which was sold at auction on 29-30 October 2020, by Roma Numismatics of London, sale XX, lot 463. A friend of mine sent me a copy of the massive 5-lb. catalog, where an erudite listing of this exceptional coin occupies four pages (but it's not on the cover!). The coin commemorates the assassination of Julius Caesar in 44 BC. As many as 30 to 60 Roman senators were involved in the plot, made famous by Shakespeare. The obverse shows Brutus facing right, while the reverse shows two daggers (one used by Brutus and the other by Cassius), the pileus or liberty cap, and the legend EID MAR. Thus we have three symbols of the assassination: the weapon, the motive, and the date. The coin itself has an impeccable pedigree and is of unquestioned authenticity. The other two gold examples repose in museums. About 100 examples are thought to exist in silver, struck from the same dies, and even these command huge prices when they are available. It was also exciting to find three extremely rare Armenian coins listed in the same catalog, the description of one of which (lot 782) cites my paper published in Vol. 12 (2000) of the American Journal of Numismatics.--LAS

Obituary of ANA member James Weber

Tom Casper submitted this obituary last March which was lost in the virus shuffle which began that month. According to Tom, Weber set up at a number of coin shows but did not operate a shop.

James Frederick Weber

GLENDAL - James Frederick Weber, 86, formerly of Glendale, found peace with the Lord on Friday, March 13, 2020, at Heritage Senior Living in Middleton. He was born on Jan. 7, 1934, son of Edward and Esther (Schuettpelez) Weber, in Milwaukee.



Jim was a co-owner of Ed Weber, Inc. with his brother. He was a hunter, licensed pilot, mason, auxiliary policeman, numismatist-owned (Elite Coin), and devout Lutheran. Jim loved family time, brats, Bloody Marys, and beer. He was always ready to share a joke or two.

Jim was the beloved husband of the late Nancy Weber for 38 years; the father of James (Pat) Weber and Debra (Jim) Meyer; stepfather of Joel (Susan Pollich) Coert, Shelley (Dan) Feagles, Paul (Lisa) Coert, and Dr. Lesley (Gary Tsarovsky) Coert; grandfather to 12; and great-grandfather to five. He was preceded in death by his wife Nancy; brother, Ed; and stepdaughter, Susan Coert.

Memorials and celebration of life are pending. Online condolences may be made to www.gundersonfh.com.

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Carson City Museum Nets \$4,625 for COVID-19 Relief Efforts



A medallion depicting a health care worker at a COVID-19 testing site is raising money for a Nevada COVID relief fund. (Image courtesy Nevada State Museum, Carson City.)

The Nevada State Museum, Carson City, raised \$4,625 for the COVID-19 Relief Fund during its Oct. 30 minting of special medallions on historic Coin Press No. 1.

A portion of the proceeds from medallion sales go to the COVID-19 Relief Fund administered by the Community Foundation of Western Nevada.

The museum says it will continue fundraising efforts through Dec. 31 of this year.

"We were pleased with the response to our Oct. 30 event and will continue offering the experience of seeing the famous coin press mint these special medallions to the public and hopefully raise more money for this great cause," said Myron Freedman, museum director. "This is also the last minting project during the historic Carson City Mint's sesquicentennial year."

The design of the Nevada Health Care Heroes medallion, created by retired U.S. Mint engraver Tom Rogers, is based on an image of a health care worker at one of the COVID-19 testing stations set up by the Nevada National Guard. Medallions are minted on Coin Press No. 1, the first coin press to operate at the Carson City Mint. A former U.S. Branch Mint, the Carson City Mint was in operation from 1870 to 1893. Today, the old mint building is incorporated into the museum.



Bob Nylen (left), former curator of history at the Nevada State Museum, Carson City, and Myron Freedman, acting administrator for the Nevada Division of Museums and History, stand by Coin Press No. 1, at the Nevada State Museum, Carson City. (Image courtesy Sydney Martinez/Travel Nevada.)



The old Carson City Mint, in operation from 1870 to 1893, now is part of the Nevada State Museum, Carson City. (Image courtesy Sydney Martinez/Travel Nevada.)

Silver planchets (.999 fine silver blanks from which the medallions are made) are available at the museum store for \$100. As of the timing of writing, every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., purchasers can watch as their planchet is imprinted with a relief of a Nevada health care worker on the coin press.

To view a video of coin press operation, visit <https://youtube.com/Veycl9KJpc8>.

The Nevada State Museum, Carson City, is one of seven state museums, and is part of the Nevada Division of Museums and History. The Nevada Division of Museums and History preserves, shares and promotes the understanding and celebration of Nevada's natural and cultural heritage for the enrichment of all generations. For more information, visit www.NVMuseums.org. ♦



Milwaukee Numismatic Society's

Fantasy Numismatics 2020

By Bruce Benoit

2020 Year End Results

This year we had thirteen (13) participants, thanks to Leon S. for promoting this at early 2020 society meetings. In general the participants as a team did exceptionally well! Seven (7) ended up with positive portfolios, and only two (2) had negative results, while four participants broke even. We do have a repeat winner this year. And our winner from last year ended up last.

This was another different year as some key date collector coins did not increase in value, or lost value. These coins are commonly selected every year with mixed results. Another surprise to me was the overall increase with certain silver dollars. This was another year of extremes, both positive and negative. We had substantial increase on one selected coin that went from \$2,850.00 in 2020 to \$4,300.00 in 2021! A \$1,450.00 increase, chosen by both our second and third place portfolio this year. The coin was an 1875-CC Twenty Cent piece in MS63. Below is an Obverse example of that coin type. We also had one coin that dropped \$520.00 – wow, and that was an 1880-O Morgan Dollar in MS64! I'm glad I don't have that coin in my safety deposit box!



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

This year's Top fantasy coin selected that had the greatest increase in value in the grade MS63

1875-CC Twenty Cent Piece

2020 Value in MS63 = \$2,850.00

2021 Value in MS63 = \$4,300.00

A Gain of \$1,450.00



Milwaukee Numismatic Society's

Fantasy Numismatics 2020

Results

By: Bruce Benoit

<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Change in Prorfolio</u>
1 st	Leon S.	+ \$3,635.00 WINNER
2 nd	James K.	+ \$2,200.00
3 rd	Justin P.	+ \$1,988.00
4 th	Gary B.	+ \$1,300.00
5 th	Bob B.	+ \$1,145.00
6 th	Paul K.	+ \$165.00
7 th	Howard T.	+ \$150.00

8 th	Tom C.	even
8 th	Bruce Ba.	even
8 th	John B.	even
8 th	Josh W.	even

12 th	Steven J.	- \$160.00
13 th	Don K.	- \$735.00

All positive portfolio's added up to +\$10,583.00

All negative portfolio's added up to -\$895.00

Giving us as a group a net profit of **\$9,688.00**

Thank you all for your participation again this year. It would be better if we had even more participation in 2021. Congratulations to the top of our leader board with positive portfolios, especially our BIG Repeat WINNER: Leon S.! Now Leon has bragging rights again till next year, and he also has even more justification for all of next year's coin purchases.

Good Luck with that Leon...! Don't forget to complete your 2021 Fantasy Numismatics Portfolio for next year!



Milwaukee Numismatic Society's

Fantasy Numismatics 2021

By Bruce Benoit

The concept:

Did you ever want to make a substantial coin purchase for investment purposes, but the only thing stopping you was your available funds to invest? This fun and educational program will enable you to spend up to \$25,000.00 in fantasy dollars on coins, and after a year's time you will find out how you did with the selections you made in your coin investment portfolio. Participants will select coins that they feel will increase in price better than others. This is a fun way to learn how you would do if you had the guts and funds to actually do it, and the challenge of competing against your numismatic buddies.

Rules:

1. All portfolio selections must be only **regular issue coins** produced by the U.S. Mint, and be listed in the January 2021 issue of Coin's magazine. (NO COMMEMS, SETS or BULLION)
2. You **can** select up to ten (10) coins, in any listed grade you would like.
3. You **cannot** exceed the \$25,000.00 limit.
4. You **cannot** change your portfolio during the year's time.
5. Portfolios will be added up using the January 2022 issue of Coin's magazine.

To participate, use the January 2021 issue of Coin's magazine price list and portfolio form to select the coins you would like to invest in. Be sure to turn in your portfolio prior to the **deadline** of **9:00 P.M.** (end of the March meeting) **2021**. Portfolios can be given to Leon Saryan to forward to me. You can track your portfolio results with each issue by subscribing to Coin's magazine. Prizes will be awarded to the top performers at the years end, and they will have bragging rights all year!

Coin Investment Portfolio

Name _____

Be sure to include the date, denomination, grade, and cost of each coin.

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Total Cost \$ _____